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Identical letters dated 17 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 14 June 2001 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls attention to the ongoing wanton aggression against Iraq by United States and British aircraft in the unlawful no-flight zones and to the fact that in the period from 5 to 25 May 2001 they carried out 424 sorties, 134 of them from Saudi Arabia, 160 from Kuwait and 130 from Turkey.

The Minister reaffirms the Government of Iraq's condemnation of these acts of aggression against Iraqi territory, and he states that international responsibility for them must be borne by the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the logistic support for this aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey. He urges you to perform the duties assigned to you under the Charter by halting this unwarranted aggression and ensuring that it does not recur.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed A. **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the identical letters dated 17 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the [Secretary-General and to the] President of the Security Council

I should like to inform you that United States and British warplanes based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have continued to violate the airspace of the Republic of Iraq. They carried out 424 sorties in the period from 5 to 25 May 2001, 134 of them from Saudi Arabia, 160 from Kuwait and 130 from Turkey, as shown hereunder.

1. In the northern region 130 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1200 hours on 7 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 16 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah, Dohuk, Irbil, Sinjar, Tall Afar, Mosul, Dokan and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1435 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1330 hours on 15 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Rawanduz, Ayn Zalah, Irbil and Dokan areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1620 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 1300 hours on 16 May 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Amadiyah, Zakho, Aqrah, Ayn Zalah, Mosul, Tall Afar, Sinjar and Irbil areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1515 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 1200 hours on 17 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Irbil, Mosul, Dohuk, Sinjar and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1530 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 1130 hours on 21 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 18 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1430 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1115 hours on 22 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's

airspace in the northern region. They carried out 22 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Mosul, Irbil, Aqrah, Tall Afar, Sinjar, Dokan and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1420 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1145 hours on 23 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 missions, were supported by an AWACS aircraft operating inside Turkish airspace and overflew the Dohuk, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar, and Ayn Zalah areas. GBU-12 laser-guided bombs were dropped in the Sahaji area of Mosul, causing material and other damage to residential complexes. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1520 hours, drove them off.

2. In the southern region 197 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres, as follows:

(a) At 1420 hours on 6 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 15 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and five from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Umm Qasr, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Salman and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1535 hours, drove them off.

(b) At 1100 hours on 7 May 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four missions from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace and an AWACS aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Jalibah and Busayyah areas, an area 30 kilometres south-west of Nasiriyah and an area 40 kilometres south of Salman. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1225 hours, drove them off.

(c) At 0910 hours on 8 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 35 missions, 17 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 18 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Shinafiyah, Ashbajah, Salman, Amarah and Jalibah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1125 hours, drove them off.

(d) At 0905 hours on 9 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 31 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control

aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 21 from the Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Artawi, Salman, Nasiriyah, Basrah, Qurnah, Shinafiyah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1130 hours, drove them off.

(e) At 0835 hours on 10 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 31 missions, eight of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 23 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Shinafiyah, Taqtaqanah, Safwan, Salman, Jalibah and Artawi areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1020 hours, drove them off.

(f) At 1045 hours on 13 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 31 missions, 12 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 19 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Basrah, Qurnah, Jalibah, Artawi and Lasaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1250 hours, drove them off.

(g) At 1015 hours on 14 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 22 missions from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 10 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Shinafiyah, Lasaf and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1200 hours, drove them off.

(h) At 1000 hours on 16 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out eight missions, four of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and four from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Salman, Lasaf, Jalibah, Shatrah, Ashbajah and Basrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1140 hours, drove them off.

(i) At 0900 hours on 17 May 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out four missions from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating

inside Saudi airspace. They overflew the Salman and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1000 hours, drove them off.

(j) At 1050 hours on 18 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out nine missions, four of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and five from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Nasiriyah, Basrah, Samawah, Qal`at Salih, Amarah, Hayy, Jalibah and Busayyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1300 hours, drove them off.

(k) At 0900 hours on 19 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 30 missions, 10 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 20 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah, Artawi, Samawah, Lasaf, Nasiriyah, Mashkhab, Basrah, Qurnah, Qal`at Salih, Shatrah, Diwaniyah and Najaf areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1100 hours, drove them off.

(l) At 1420 hours on 22 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 21 missions, 15 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and six from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Karbala', Najaf, Shinafiyah, Hayy, Kut, Afak, Amarah, Salman and Qal`at Salih areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

(m) At 1340 hours on 23 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 21 missions, 13 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and eight from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Basrah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Shinafiyah, Lasaf, Nukhayb, Diwaniyah, Amarah, Hashimiyah, Qal`at Sukkar and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

(n) At 1515 hours on 24 May 2001, United States and British F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out five missions, two of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and three from Kuwaiti territory by way of the

demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Busayyah and Ma`aniyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1800 hours, drove them off.

(o) At 1425 hours on 25 May 2001, United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 27 missions, 13 of them from Saudi territory with the support of an AWACS command and control aircraft operating inside Saudi airspace and 14 from Kuwaiti territory by way of the demilitarized zone between Iraq and Kuwait with the support of an E-2C command and control aircraft operating inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Diwaniyah, Hayy, Qal`at Salih, Salman, Busayyah and Ashbajah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1630 hours, drove them off.

This aggression illustrates the bellicose attitude being maintained by the United States of America and the United Kingdom towards Iraq. Since 1992, it has become a fixed policy aimed at undermining the country's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and at the systematic and concerted destruction of Iraqi lives, infrastructure and civilian installations. It is a policy that has been affirmed in successive statements made by United States and British officials.

The Government of Iraq categorically rejects the two so-called no-flight zones, which were imposed by unilateral decision of the United States and the United Kingdom and lack any legal basis. Iraq rejects all the consequences of this illegal decision and, in particular, the flimsy excuses and pretexts used by these States in an attempt to justify their military aggression against our country.

The logistic support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the Americans and the British has made these countries key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they bear full international responsibility under international law. This includes liability for full compensation for the loss and damage, in both human and material terms, that is caused by these illegal practices.

The Government of Iraq further renews its call to the countries participating in this aggression to desist forthwith from internationally prohibited acts that violate Iraq's sovereignty, place its security and integrity in grave danger and pose a direct and serious threat to international peace and security.

As it condemns these acts of aggression against Iraqi targets and installations, the Government of Iraq urges you to perform the duties assigned to you [under the Charter] as they relate to the maintenance of international peace and security by intervening with the governments of the countries in question with a view to inducing them to halt, end and desist from any resumption of their constant and unwarranted aggression against an independent, sovereign State.

(*Signed*) Tariq **Aziz**
Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs